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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Revision of [REDACTED] ^{25X6A} Estimate - Initial Meeting of the Working Group on the Economics Section (14 October 1958)

1. By invitation of Mr. John Easton, JCS, the undersigned attended the initial meeting of the working group on the economics section of the forthcoming 1959 NSC Planning Estimate, at the Pentagon, 14 October 1958.

2. The meeting was also attended by the following persons:

Miss Margaret Tobin, Army
Mr. Herbert Black, State
Col. Royal Hart, Air
Mr. Benjamin Davis, Navy

25X1A9a 3. On the initiative of Mr. Easton it was agreed that CIA should chair the economics working group. The undersigned assumed the chair, vice [REDACTED] the regularly designated ORN member of the economics working group, who was unable to attend because of a temporary assignment to other duty.

4. Mr. Easton submitted to the group informally, copies of the JCS terms of reference in the form of a general outline of the proposed paper. It was stated that copies of these terms were being submitted to the participating agencies through channels.

5. As interim chairman the undersigned proceeded to ascertain the sense of the group as to the appropriate scope, problems, emphasis, and length of the contributions, based on the experience derived from the preparation of the 1958 estimate and the events of the current year.


6. Preference was expressed for an NIE type of reasoned discussion, pointed to the essentially military character of the estimate and supported by selected factual information.

7. To the extent possible the estimate will cover the period from Mid 1959 to Mid 1965.

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8. It was agreed that GMR would provide the economics working group with a first draft of the economics section of Part II, the body of the estimate, by the middle of November, and a draft of Part I, the summary, by the middle of December.

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